REMARKS:

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to claims and following remarks.

No new matter is added by the amendments to the claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(a, e)

Claims 1-4, 14, 24, 25 and 45-53 stand rejected based on asserted anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §§102(a) or 102(e) by Slugg et al., US 2004/0005358. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Slugg is very clearly about modified release formulations of vasopeptidase inhibitors, which can be in combination with other pharmaceuticals, as indicated by the Abstract, the claims, and ¶136. These vasopeptidase inhibitors inhibit both neutral endopeptidase (NEP) and angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE). Applicant's claims do not encompass such combinations.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-7, 14, 25 and 45-53 stand rejected based on asserted obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Slugg and Lewis et al., WO 00/28989. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Slugg has been addressed above. Lewis relates to compositions with an insulin sensitizer, i.e., thiazolidinedione per the nomenclature of the patent document (1:23), and another antidiabetic agent – which are all agents in group (a) of current claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

If the Office believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse action in any of the claims now pending in the application, the Applicants request that the Office telephone Arthur E. Jackson at (732) 917-6323 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted

Moser IP Law Group

Date: 16 July 2010

By: /Arthur E Jackson/
Arthur E Jackson
Registration No. 34,682

MOSER IP LAW GROUP
1030 Broad Street – Suite 203
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
732.935.710